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## Waxman Urges Powell to Take Action Against Arab Incitement

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Henry A. Waxman today sent a letter to Secretary of State Colin Powell calling for strong U.S. denunciation of an upcoming United Nations meeting being organized at the request of the Arab League and the Organization of Islamic States solely to criticize Israel.

Representative Waxman said, "Arab incitement against Israel threatens to legitimize terror against the Israeli people and poses a serious setback to U.S. efforts in the Middle East peace process. I applaud the Administration's decision to boycott this U.N. meeting, but I believe we must urge our allies to recognize the consequences of their participation."

The agenda of the U.N. meeting, which will take place on December 5, 2001 in Geneva, is to assess alleged Israeli violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention -- the international treaty governing the treatment of civilians during wartime. The proposed declaration already in circulation is staunchly biased against Israel, particularly with respect to the most sensitive issues regarding the status of Jerusalem and Palestinian refugees. It also calls for the imposition of an international observer force.

"After the vicious anti-Semitism, anti-Zionism, and Holocaust denial aired during the Durban Conference Against Racism, it is outrageous that the U.N. would facilitate another international forum for Arab nations to demonize Israelis and Jews," Representative Waxman added. "It is bad enough that such propaganda is openly disseminated in state-sponsored Arab media."

One specific program Representative Waxman criticizes in the letter is *Plots* of *Terrorism*, a primetime series that airs on an Abu Dhabi station sponsored by the United Arab Emirates. The show features a look-alike of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon as a vampire that drinks the blood of Arab children.

"The show is offensive, irresponsible, and destructive. It deserves forceful condemnation from the United States and every civilized country in the world."

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